

PATENT
Attorney Docket No. 2887.0249

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
)
TADASHI AMADA ET AL.)
)
Application No.: 10/662,294) Group Art Unit: 2643
)
Filed: September 16, 2003) Examiner: Unknown
)
For: DIRECTIONAL SETTING)
APPARATUS, DIRECTIONAL)
SETTING SYSTEM,)
DIRECTIONAL SETTING)
METHOD AND DIRECTIONAL)
SETTING PROGRAM)

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(b), applicants bring to the attention of the Examiner the documents listed on the attached PTO 1449. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits for the above-referenced application.

Copies of the listed documents are attached.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the listed documents and indicate that they were considered by making appropriate notations on the attached form.

In addition, a copy of a Search Report from the European Patent Office dated March 4, 2004, issued in a corresponding application citing these documents is enclosed.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that each or all of the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If the Examiner applies any of the documents as prior art against any claim in the application and applicants determine that the cited documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, applicants reserve the right to present to the office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents.

Applicants further reserve the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should one or more of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Statement, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

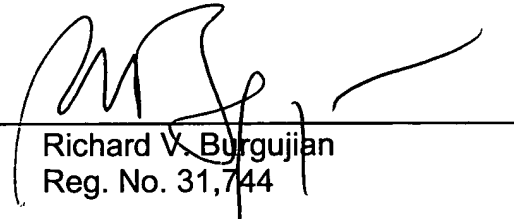
Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: _____

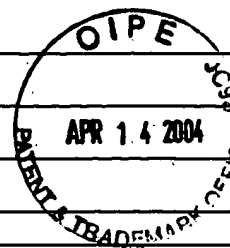
4/14/04

By: _____


Richard V. Burgujian
Reg. No. 31,744

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION

Atty. Docket No.	2887.0249	Appln. No.	10/662,294
Applicant	Amada et al.		
Filing Date	September 16, 2003	Group:	2643



U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
Examiner Initial*		Document Number	Issue Date	Name	Class	Sub Class	Filing Date If Appropriate
		2002/0001389 A1	1/3/02	Amiri et al.			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
		Document Number	Publication Date	Country	Class	Sub Class	Translation Yes or No

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)	
	Nagai et al., "ESTIMATION OF SOURCE LOCATION BASED ON 2-D MUSIC AND ITS APPLICATION TO SPEECH RECOGNITION IN CARS," IEEE International Conference on Acoustics, Speech, and Signal Processing Proceedings (May 7-11, 2001), pp. 3041-44
	Lleida et al., "ROBUST CONTINUOUS SPEECH RECOGNITION SYSTEM BASED ON A MICROPHONE ARRAY," Proceedings of the 1998 IEEE International Conference (May 12, 1998), pp. 241-244
	Kiyohara et al., "A MICROPHONE ARRAY SYSTEM FOR SPEECH RECOGNITION," IEEE International Conference (April 21, 1997), pp. 215-218

Examiner	Date Considered
*Examiner: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.	
Form PTO 1449	Patent and Trademark Office - U.S. Department of Commerce